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SATURDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1957

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1957 RELEGATIONS MAY BE DROPPED

Promotions Would Be Normal

INVESTIGATIONS being made by the Committee of General Enquiry into all aspects of Victorian soccer since last May have revealed strong opinion in favour of expansion of all divisions to 12 clubs, and a recommendation will eventually reach Council accordingly.

The strength of this pressure was not made public previously, because it was felt that clubs in the lower halves of the ladders would change the nature of the competitions by relaxing, comfortable in the knowledge that the move would mean safety from relegation.

Neither this question, nor other major recommendations, have yet been officially submitted to Council by the Committee, and it had been intended to withhold publicity on the subject until it had acquired some official status.

But the Press, which has known of the move for some months now, but has co-operated by withholding the story in the interests of normalcy in the character of matches involving relegation - threatened clubs, justifiably point out that relegation positions have been finalised now, and that there is no point in further silence on the question.

Arguments supporting the expansions were mainly along the following lines:

- (a) Promotion and relegation of 40 per cent. of a League — two up and two down out of 10 — created unwieldy changes.
- (b) It brings four more clubs into the upper two grades, and four instead of the usual two, this year, into the Third Division.
- (c) If the 12-club policy is applied to the Metropolitan Divisions, and if sufficient clubs with adequate qualifications apply for entry, eight new clubs could be rostered in the parallel Fourth Divisions.

The only argument against the move concerned the difficulty of completing the fixtures in the limited time during which grounds are available to soccer. Numerous suggestions, many practical and many otherwise, have been advanced, some of which could overcome the difficulty.

Submission of the proposal as a recommendation to Council is the next step, and the final outcome is as yet in the lap of the gods.

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SOCCER NEWS

*The Magazine of the
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AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL
ASSOCIATION*

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Phone: Windsor (LX) 4414.

Vol. 10—No. 23



AUGUST 31, 1957

VETERAN CLUBS DOWN AFTER LONG TERMS IN TOP LEAGUE

Ex-Champs. Brighton, Box Hill Face Relegation

After long and honourable sojourns in the First Division, Box Hill and Brighton have slumped into painful decline, and have qualified for relegation to the Second Division.

UNLESS the widespread demands for the expansion of the Leagues to 12 teams each are

brought to realisation for season 1958, these two gallant clubs, which have enjoyed many grand moments

amongst the mighty of Victorian soccer, must go down into the wilderness of the lower grade.

Box Hill was First Division champion as recently as 1948. Brighton's illustrious career included the 1949 premiership, and the Dockerty Cup Championship in 1933, 1937, 1944 and 1952. The Seasiders were runners-up, too, in 1951, 1953 and 1956.

Many veteran soccer fans will regard the plight of these two clubs with profound and sorrowful sympathy, but the clubs themselves haven't time to waste on regrets.

Unless they wish to follow other clubs which were unable to successfully re-organise in time to avoid further loss of divisional status, they must quickly find a method for the infusion of new and stimulating blood.

They will have the good wishes — and the good-will — of every section of Victorian soccer in their difficult task of rehabilitation.

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THREE IN BOX SEATS FOR PROMOTION TO 1st DIV.

Unless some shocking upsets occur in the remaining matches, George Cross, Hellenic and South Melbourne United will be the final contenders for promotion to the Senior League.

HELENIK is in devastating form, and simply thrashed George Cross last week. If the Greeks maintain that form to-day and next week, and if George Cross falters, they could win both the premiership and promotion on goal percentage.

Here is an analysis of the possibilities before to-day's games:

GEORGE CROSS: Has 24 points, with Richmond and Preston to play, both dangerous opponents. Form last week too bad to be true. Should im-

prove. Unless the Maltese are upset in both remaining matches, they should finish with at least 26 points, and an excellent goal percentage.

HELENIK: Has 22 points, with Preston and Footscray City to play. On last week's form, should beat them both to finish with 26 points and good goal percentage.

SOUTH MELBOURNE UNITED: Has 24 points, with Prahran only to play. Should win to finish with 26 points, but unless Hellenic and George

Cross are involved in shockers, United must win by a wide goal margin to beat the goal percentages of the other two contenders.

RICHMOND: Has 23 points, must toss George Cross to-day in its last match, and hope for upsets against Hellenic and South Melbourne United. Unlikely.

PRESTON: Has 19 points, and must win its three remaining matches against Hellenic, George Cross and Sunshine City to be in it. Unlikely.

YALLOURN: Lost its last chance last Saturday.

At the other end of the ladder, **FOOTSCRAY CITY** must join **SOUTH YARRA** in relegation to the Third Division unless it can beat both Yallourn and Hellenic in its last two games, which seems too much to expect.

The other team in the danger zone, **SUNSHINE CITY**, should win its way to safety at the expense of wooden-spooners South Yarra.

Here are the remaining fixtures. Where one match is shown it will be played to-day. Where two matches are shown, the second will be played next Saturday. The date of Preston's third match has yet to be arranged:

GEORGE CROSS: v. Richmond; v. Preston.

SOUTH MELBOURNE UTD.: v. Prahran.

HELENIK: v. Preston; v. Footscray City.

RICHMOND: v. George Cross.

YALLOURN: v. Footscray City.

PRESTON: v. Hellenic; v. George Cross; v. Sunshine City.

PRAHHRAN: v. South Melbourne United.

SUNSHINE CITY: v. South Yarra; v. Preston.

FOOTSCRAY CITY: v. Yallourn; v. Hellenic.

SOUTH YARRA: v. Sunshine City.



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FIRST DIVISION.

AND THAT'S THAT IN THE SENIOR LEAGUE

THERE may still be those who will argue that Brighton has a mathematical chance to change places with either Polonia or Wilhelmina on the League ladder before finis is written this season. Quite true. But the chance is as slim as the possibility of snow at Surfer's Paradise in January. And so we say that's that in the senior League for 1957.

For the edification of those interested, Brighton's aforesaid mathematical chance depends on the following:

1. Wilhelmina and/or Polonia must lose their two remaining fixtures, the Dutchmen to Slavia and Juventus, or Polonia to Slavia and J.U.S.T.
2. Brighton must concurrently defeat Moreland and J.U.S.T. with a combined winning margin of at least 12 goals.

CAN J.U.S.T. WIN THE DOCKERTY CUP?

Brighton's dearth of playing material was highlighted last week by the use of goalie Arthur Scott in the field. Arthur hasn't been selected as a field player for years, and we say that it took guts and infinite loyalty to take on the job, especially at soccer headquarters.

The even strength of First Division clubs is still apparent, with only three League points separating seven teams. A two-point win can take a side from seventh position right up to third, as was demonstrated last week by Gee long.

Although Tom Jack might say that he's never been away, we must repeat that we're still tremendously impressed by his come-back efforts in the past five weeks.

Dear Lolly Vella: A lot of people laughed when you left the field in a huff last week and had to be coaxed back on. But your admirers didn't laugh — we were deeply disappointed in you, and hope you never let us down again. We'll repeat what we said a long time ago — if you don't stop losing your Lolly, you could be Vella, Vella sorry.

CAN J.U.S.T. WIN THE DOCKERTY CUP?

Hakoah was unlucky to lose both points to Polonia in last Saturday's tilt at Olympic Park. In a rugged

Adelaide Visit Likely

Victoria has received an invitation from the South Australian Soccer Association to send a visiting team to Adelaide in the second week in September for two matches, one of which will probably be a night game.

Mr. W. R. Thomas, Chairman of the Victorian Soccer Council, has stated that the invitation is likely to be accepted.

Winger and Goalie Vis-a-vis



J.U.S.T.'s right-winger, Lolly Vella, puts on the brakes as Joe Ruyters, of Wilhelmina, stops a shot and moves for its disposal.

J.U.S.T. won this one 3-2 at the Showgrounds last week.

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THIRD DIVISION.

COBURG DOES IT AGAIN!

YARRA Park, leader of the Third Division, has been defeated only twice in their 17 games this season, which says a lot for the team. Then what can be said of the side which beat Yarra Park both times?

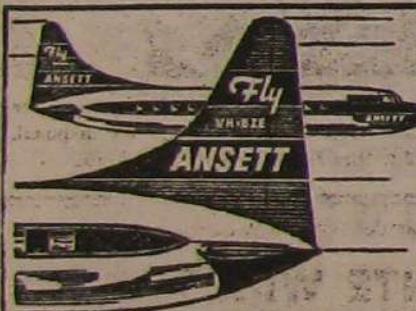
Coburg was the only club to down the leaders this year. Then, rubbing it in, the northerners repeated the dose last Saturday.

Going all out, Coburg scored twice through Eddie Sacco and Joe Gauci in the first half, then settled down to dour defence in the second period, seeing it through to win 2-1.

This lifted Coburg to fourth place on the ladder, a valued spot if the 12-club League proposal is realised, and the Third Division is called upon to supply four clubs to the Second Division.

Victorian Colts continued their spectacular rise with a win over Brunswick, and are now in third place. The Colts will get a thorough testing when they meet Yarra Park to-day.

Dandenong Rovers earned full marks with their 3-1 win over dif-



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MAAT

Greece, Poland in World Cup Tomorrow

The first World Cup quarter-finals will be played at Olympic Park tomorrow, when Latvia meets Poland in the early match at 1.30 p.m., and Greece faces England at 2.50 p.m.

A tip for soccer connoisseurs — watch Greek centre-forward Tony Karayannis.

sultant opponent, Hayduk. Beset by injuries, the Rovers played 55 minutes with 10 men, and the last 20 minutes with only nine.

The loss cost Hayduk two rungs on the ladder, leaving the club in fifth position.

* * *

From Home to Home

WANT IT BOTH WAYS!

Dear Sir.—My Committee is much concerned with remarks made by you in regard to our game against Vic. Colts in the last issue of "Soccer News." We agree in full as to what the rules say, but disagree with your comments.

[Our comments concerned nothing but the rules.—Ed.]

We wish to inform you that a protest lodged by us in the above case is in the hands of League Management, and an earlier comment by you, as Editor of "Soccer News," is unfair to us.

[Then why did Maccabi send in two written queries on the game, obviously for publication and reply? Why didn't Maccabi have the foresight then to mention a protest, and thus avoid so-called comment sub-judice?—Ed.]

Please take into consideration that no "mutual agreement" had been reached regarding the cutting of the time of the game, and no Maccabi man was consulted before the match.

[Strange. One of Maccabi's earlier queries contained this statement: "The referee ordered 40 minutes' play each way." We submit that referees cannot "order" such changes, must seek agreement on it, and do not seek it either during, or after, a match.—Ed.]

Your remark, that "it's too late to complain after the game" are also not in accordance with the rules, which say that there are 72 hours after a game in which to complain.

[We did not say that it was too late to COMPLAIN after the game. We said that it was too late to DISAGREE with a previously MUTUALLY AGREED UPON alteration after the game.—Ed.]

METROPOLITAN NORTH.

Promotional Battle Looms

IT is only fair to remind clubs in the North League that the story on the inside cover of this week's issue indicates that there is a possibility that their division may be called upon to supply two candidates for promotion if relegation is rescinded for this season.

In that event, Lions, Heidelberg, University and Bayswater all have a chance to join I.C.L. in the upward move.

Since only one solitary point separates the four of them, a hot fight for the second berth should develop. Heidelberg is at a disadvantage with only one match to play — and that's against strong leader, I.C.L.

University, too, has the job ahead with two hard matches to go, against Lions to-day, and Bayswater next week. Bayswater, meeting C.F.C. to-day and University next week, could be a dark horse, but our vote for favouritism goes to Lions, who play University to-day and finish against C.F.C. next Saturday.

From where we sit, it looks like I.C.L. and Lions.

Metropolitan South. 14.3

Melbourne Record?

MELBOURNE will play its last League game of the season to-day against wooden-spooners Pascoe Vale, and unless the Hungarians forfeit the match or play with only six men, they must win to end the season undefeated.

No doubt they will collect a bagful of goals to-day, too, and make their final tally about 185 — a truly colossal performance.

Croatia, Ferntree Gully, Rosebud and long-shot Port Melbourne are the contenders for the runner-up position.

If Croatia can defeat Victoria Police, the contest will be decided to-day. Otherwise it must wait upon next week's results.

J.U.S.T. scored three goals against Wilhelmina last week. Peter Vidovic got all three. And he still talks about retirement!

THE following indications of good club management were noticed when Ferntree Gully played at home to Melbourne:

(a) The ground was laid out perfectly, with corner flags, nets, machine markings, and patches of uneven ground filled in with sand and rolled.

(b) A refreshment tent had been erected, and tea was provided free for all players and visitors.

(c) The players were paraded on to the field before the game started, and Gully Secretary, Mr. C. W. Smits, addressed the assemblage, congratulating Melbourne on its acquisition of the North League title. He then presented the Melbourne captain with an out-size bouquet of flowers.

Somebody ought to present Mr. Smits with an even larger bouquet.

Defence on Top at Park



No field goals were permitted by either Polonia or Hakoah in last Saturday's clash at Olympic Park. Polonia won with two penalty kicks. Here van Egmond gathers one in to Brunnbauer's disappointment.

Bouquets for Ferntree Gully

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STUART—Boston says that when the hospital sawbones were checking up to see whether his valves needed a re-grind, whether his carburettor needed a new jet, or whether his battery had merely gone flat, they put a fluoroscope tube down his throat and switched on the light. Stuart said he was lit up like a neon sign, and what with all the kidneys and livers, he looked like an advertisement for a small goods factory.

Ferntree Gully was trailing 0-3 to Sandringham City at half-time last Saturday, but fought back to win 4-3. How's that for raw courage!

BREVITIES...

It's amazing to reflect that Polonia finished the first round this season with five points, yet after seven matches in the second round, jacked themselves up to 16 points. The change came when a couple of vital committee changes were effected, and positional experimentation was cut out. Result: Improved team spirit and confidence. Just shows what critical self-examination in high places can accomplish, when accompanied by swift action.

An ex-Scottish F.A. referee who has played a lot of "Juvenile" football in his day, has joined Yallourn as Coach-Trainer. He is Mr. H. Duggan, not long out from Scotland. Could make a big difference to Yallourn next year.

Mr. J. Fox is filling the presidential vacancy at Box Hill caused by the death of Mr. W. Barnett.

Veteran Angus McDonald suggests that the proper authority might consider inviting Miss Mary Armstrong, daughter of the donor, the late Mr. Harry Armstrong, to present the Reserve Cup this year.

Mention of reserves reminds us how often we wished we had the time and space to write a page about the unsung heroes of the seconds. Some day, maybe.

It's not as hard as you think to get to Sunshine City's ground if you want to see them play Juventus next Saturday. By car, take the Ballarat Road, and turn left on Anderson Road, which is the road just before the Albion railway gates. By bus, from Queen Street, or by rail, to Sunshine, and you'll find yourself right near the ground. All conveniences, too — right opposite a Police Station — and a pub. If you're there early, you'll find a seat in the stand, too.

Stevens, of Yallourn, nursing a broken nose after the match against Hellenic. Walked into an open door?

Florentina must be slipping — they let through another goal last week to Park Rangers reserves. That's the second goal they've yielded in 13 matches. On the credit side, they are undrawn, unbeaten, and have scored 56 goals. Looks like one of the Metropolitan Leagues will have another prodigiously unbeatable side in its ranks next year.



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Olympic Park Programme

SEPTEMBER.

- 1: World Cup Quarter-finals—
Latvia v. Poland (1.30 p.m.).
Greece v. England (2.50 p.m.).
- 7: Dockerty Cup Quarter-final—
Hakoah v. Polonia.
- 8: World Cup Quarter-finals—
Jugoslavia v. Australia (1.30 p.m.).
Austria v. Scotland (2.50 p.m.).

Last Week's Results

FIRST DIVISION.

J.U.S.T. d. Wilhelmina, 3-2.
Polonia d. Hakoah, 2-0.
Slavia drew Moreland, 2-2.
Box Hill drew Juventus, 1-1.
Geelong d. Brighton, 2-1.

SECOND DIVISION.

Sunshine City d. Prahran, 4-1.
Preston d. South Yarra, 6-3.
South Melbourne d. Yallourn, 3-1.
Hellenic d. George Cross, 5-2.
Richmond d. Footscray City, 5-3.

THIRD DIVISION.

Sunshine United d. Moorabbin C., 4-2.
Coburg d. Yarra Park, 2-1.
Vic. Colts d. Brunswick, 3-0.
Frankston d. F.N.D., 4-0.
Maccabi d. Park Rangers, 4-2.
Dandenong Rovers d. Hayduk, 3-1.

METROPOLITAN NORTH.

Heidelberg drew Lions, 1-1.
I.C.L. d. St. Albans, 2-1.
University d. C.S.R., W.O.
Bayswater d. Fairfield, 3-1.
Williamstown drew C. Fert., 3-3.

METROPOLITAN SOUTH.

Melbourne d. Vic. Police, 6-2.
Pascoe Vale d. Wilhelmina, W.O.
Croatia d. G.M.H., W.O.
Rosebud d. Port Melbourne, 10-1.
Ferntree Gully d. Sandringham City, 4-3.

DIVISION 1 RESERVES.

J.U.S.T. drew Wilhelmina, 2-2.
Polonia d. Hakoah, 3-0.
Moreland d. Slavia, 5-0.
Box Hill v. Juventus (abandoned
at 75 minutes).
Brighton d. Geelong, 2-1.

DIVISION 2 RESERVES.

Prahran d. Sunshine City, 5-3.
Preston d. South Yarra, 3-1.
Yallourn d. South Melbourne, 3-2.
George Cross d. Hellenic, 3-2.
Richmond d. Footscray C., W.O.

DIVISION 3 RESERVES.

Sandringham C. d. Dandenong, 7-1.
I.C.L. d. Moorabbin City, 10-1.
Coburg d. Heidelberg, 4-2.
Fiorentina d. Park Rangers, 9-1.
Lions d. University, 2-1.
Maccabi d. Sunshine United, 6-2.

METROPOLITAN NORTH.

I.C.L. v. Heidelberg.
University v. Lions.
Fairfield v. St. Albans.
Williamstown v. C.S.R.
Bayswater v. C. Fert.

METROPOLITAN SOUTH.

Pascoe Vale v. Melbourne.
Croatia v. Vic. Police.
Port Melbourne v. Wilhelmina.
Sandringham City v. G.M.H.
Rosebud v. Ferntree Gully.

Today's Fixtures

Next Week's Fixtures

DIVISION 1.

Polonia v. J.U.S.T.
Slavia v. Wilhelmina.
Box Hill v. Hakoah.
Brighton v. Moreland.
Juventus v. Geelong.

DIVISION 2.

South Yarra v. Sunshine City.
South Melbourne v. Prahran.
Hellenic v. Preston.
Footscray City v. Yallourn.
George Cross v. Richmond.

DIVISION 3.

Park Rangers v. Moorabbin City.
Yarra Park v. Vic. Colts.
Dandenong Rovers v. Brunswick.
F.N.D. v. Hayduk.
Maccabi v. Coburg.
Sunshine United v. Frankston.

DIVISION 1 RESERVES.

J.U.S.T. v. Polonia.
Wilhelmina v. Slavia.
Hakoah v. Box Hill.
Moreland v. Brighton.
Geelong v. Juventus.

DIVISION 2 RESERVES.

Sunshine City v. South Yarra.
Prahran v. South Melbourne.
Preston v. Hellenic.
Yallourn v. Footscray City.
Richmond v. George Cross.

DIVISION 3 RESERVES.

Lions v. Sandringham City.
Moorabbin City v. Coburg.
Sunshine United v. Heidelberg.
Fiorentina v. Maccabi.
University v. I.C.L.
Dandenong v. Park Rangers.

METROPOLITAN NORTH.

C.F.C. v. Lions.
Bayswater v. University.

METROPOLITAN SOUTH.

Port Melbourne v. Sandringham.
Croatia v. Rosebud.

FIRST DIVISION RESERVES.

Polonia v. Moreland.
J.U.S.T. v. Hakoah.

THIRD DIVISION RESERVES.

I.C.L. v. Sandringham.
Moorabbin v. University.
Heidelberg v. Park Rangers.
Dandenong v. Fiorentina.
Coburg v. Maccabi.
Sunshine United v. Lions.

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Page Eight

SOCCER NEWS

August 31, 1957

HOW THEY STAND

UNDER 17.

DIVISION 1.

Team.	Goals					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
J.U.S.T.	16	12	2	2	46	27
Moreland	16	8	3	5	37	28
Geelong	17	6	6	5	27	30
Juventus	16	6	5	5	30	21
Slavia	16	7	3	6	35	32
Hakoah	16	7	3	6	27	29
Wilhelmina	16	7	2	7	44	33
Polonia	16	7	2	7	31	28
Brighton	16	5	2	9	24	35
Box Hill	17	0	4	13	11	49
						4

DIVISION 2.

Team.	Goals					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Geo. Cross	16	11	2	3	37	15
S. Melb.	17	11	2	4	36	20
Richmond	17	10	3	4	36	25
Hellenic	16	11	0	5	50	26
Yallourn	17	8	5	4	41	23
Preston	15	7	5	3	36	24
Prahran	17	4	4	9	24	42
Sunshine C.	16	5	3	10	20	34
Facray C.	16	2	4	10	26	45
S. Yarra	17	1	0	18	20	71

DIVISION 3.

Team.	Goals					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Yarra Park	17	13	2	2	63	20
Dandenong	17	10	4	3	69	29
Vic. Colts	18	11	1	16	54	27
Coburg	18	10	2	6	43	20
Haydak	18	9	4	5	32	25
Frankston	18	10	1	7	46	31
Maccabi	16	7	2	7	53	35
Sunshine U.	17	6	4	7	39	60
Park R.	17	7	1	9	39	43
Brunswick	17	5	4	8	27	36
Moorabbin	18	1	3	14	82	80
F.N.D.	17	0	2	15	11	58

DIVISION 3 RESERVES.

Team.	Goals					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Coburg	17	12	3	2	50	18
Fiorenina	18	13	0	0	56	2
Lions	17	11	2	3	50	27
S'ham City	18	11	2	5	47	27
Maccabi	18	11	0	7	57	31
Dandenong	18	10	1	7	37	45
L.C.I.	18	9	1	8	41	33
Sunshine U.	17	7	3	7	21	23
Park R.	18	5	2	11	31	71
Heidelberg	18	4	2	12	24	55

UNDER 20.

Team.	Goals					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Juventus	14	11	2	0	45	7
Box Hill A	15	10	4	1	40	14
St. Kilda	16	10	2	4	62	16
St. Albans	15	9	3	3	39	17
Essendon A	15	8	3	4	43	14
Sunshine C.	14	6	4	4	42	28
Brighton	15	7	1	7	27	28
Polonia	14	7	0	7	32	28
Wilhelmina	16	4	2	8	16	44
B'meadows	14	3	1	10	18	35
Essendon B	15	3	0	12	20	53
Box Hill B	14	2	2	10	14	61
Maccabi	15	3	0	12	20	53

METROPOLITAN SOUTH.

Team.	Goals					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Melbourne	17	16	1	0	126	18
Croatia	16	10	3	3	41	22
Vic. Police	17	9	3	5	51	38
Ferntree G.	17	8	5	4	57	43
Rosebud	16	9	2	5	59	33
P. Melb.	16	9	1	6	52	43
Wilhelmina	17	5	4	8	61	56
S'ham C.	16	4	3	9	38	59
Pascoe Vale	17	2	0	15	17	87

DIVISION 1 RESERVES.

Team.	Goals					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Juventus	16	12	1	3	62	18
Wilhelmina	17	10	4	3	47	35
Polonia	16	10	3	3	47	20
Moreland	15	10	1	4	44	21
Yallourn	17	9	1	6	37	22
Geelong	16	9	1	6	37	22
Brighton	17	6	0	12	23	66
Slavia	17	4	1	12	28	60
Hakoah	15	3	1	11	19	85
Box Hill	17	3	0	14	23	16

DIVISION 2 RESERVES.

Team.	Goals					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Geo. Cross	17	15	1	1	60	23
S. Melb.	17	11	1	5	49	23
Yallourn	17	9	4	4	51	26
Richmond	17	9	2	6	37	31
Sunshine C.	17	8	3	6	40	36
Prahran	17	6	5	6	34	40
Preston	17	7	2	8	34	33
Hellenic	17	5	4	8	23	28
S. Yarra	17	2	2	18	21	71
Facray C.	17	1	2	14	8	46

DIVISION 3 RESERVES.

Team.	Goals					
P	W	D	L	F	A	

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